DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Chacko, നിങ്ങളുടെ നിവേദനത്തിൻ മറുപടി ഒടുവിൽ പറയാം.

[A reply to the representation will be given later on.]

142. Concessions to Catholic Christians of south Travancore.

Mr. F. DAVY (*Nominated*) said that the Latin Catholics outnumbered any other section of Christians in Travancore. But they were inadequately represented in public service. To secure an improvement in the condition of the Latin Catholics, the member made the following suggestions :—

Government should issue orders to the various heads of departments for preference being shown to applicants of the Latin Christian community.

The Headmasters of English and Vernacular schools and the Principals of Colleges should be asked to grant fee concessions to pupils and students who belonged to the Latin Christian community.

In the selection of students for training in foreign countries, preference should be shown to qualified young men of the community.

Special encouragement should be given, whenever possible, to members of the community already service.

The Chief Engineer should be asked to arrange for the construction of roads and the sinking ni' wells wherever members of the community wanted them.

The Land Revenue Commissioner and the Director of Industries should be asked to grant loans to applicants of the Latin Christian community, to enable them to start and carry on agricultural and industrial enterprises.

Instructions should be issued for the registry, in the names of poor members of the community, of lands for building houses.

The Latin Christian community was not in a position to obtain representation, by election, in representative institutions and local bodies. Government should nominate members of the community to those institutions and local bodies. In the interests of minority communities, Government had the power to make nominations.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Davy, as regards your request for fee concession, I shall refer the matter to the Director of Public Instruction.

As regards stipends to students going to foreign countries for study, I outlined the policy of the Government in the matter in answer to a representation made by another member.

You say that roads must be constructed and wells sunk wherever members of your community want them. It is not possible to make at one and the same time all the roads and wells that the people might want. They are therefore being made according to the urgent needs of each locality.

You want agricultural loans. If members of your community apply for them, the applications will be dealt with by the Land Revenue Department according to the rules; and, as in the case of other agriculturists, such applications will be dealt with sympathetically by the Government.

Then, as regards nominations, as you yourself have noticed, the power that is reserved with the Government for making nominations is being exercised in the interests of all communities which do not secure proper representation by election. Government also consider the claims of your community which, you say, cannot get proper representation.

143 Needs of the Visvakarma (Kammala) Community.

MR. JOTSIER M. ARUMUKHAM ASARI (*Nominated*) thanked Government for having nominated him to represent the Visvakarma community in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

It was well-known that, as the Visvakarma community was mostly engaged in industrial pursuits, it was very backward in the matter of education.

According to the last decennial census, the strength of the Visvakarma community was 1,63,724 people. Most of them were uneducated and poor. Government should do their best to bring about an improvement in the condition of those people.

The 100 members of the Assembly represented 40 lakhs of people. As there were two lakhs of people in the Visvakarma community, it could very well claim to have two representatives in the Assembly. One member should also be nominated from the community to the Legislative Council.

It was not possible for the community to get representation in the various Municipal Councils by election. A member should therefore be nominated to each of the important Municipal Councils. Qualified members should also be nominated to the Village Panchayat Courts, Bench Magistrates' Courts and the Economic Development Board.

Only holders of Vernacular School Leaving Certificates were eligible for admission to the School of Arts, Trivandrum, and the Weaving Institute and the Carpentry School, Quilon. It affected the community prejudicially. Members of the community who had studied up to the 4th class should be declared eligible for admission. Fifty per cent. of the seats in those institutions should be reserved for members of the professional classes like the Kammalas.

A carpentry school should be opened at Nagercoil, as at Quilon. Scientific methods should be taught in those schools. Qualified and able members of the Visvakarma community should be sent to the Mysore Metal Factory and similar institutions, for being trained in different kinds of industries. On their return, they should be appointed as Headmasters of industrial schools. A bell-metal institute was necessary at Nagercoil.